

**Liberal Arts Council Meeting**  
**November 1, 2011**

**Present:** M. Aakhus, M. Dixon, K. Waters, S. Spencer, S. Rode, J. Evey, I. Phillips, T. Hunt, R. Gennaro, R. Priest, MT Hallock Morris, W. Rinks, E. Wasserman, C. York, B. Christie.

**Absent:** T. Bordelon

**I. Minutes**

The minutes from October 25<sup>th</sup> were not available for review.

**II. BA Issues**

M. Dixon reported that the University's definition of a B.A. currently allows students who have completed modern language courses (above the 204-level) taught in English to earn the B.A. degree.

M. Dixon has drafted a petition to be sent to the Provost that requests a change in the definition to prevent this from occurring. The Council unanimously endorsed the petition that will now be sent to the Provost's office.

**III. Academic Planning Council**

The Academic Planning Council will meet twice a semester beginning in fall 2012. This schedule will permit a proposed program to be granted initial and final approval within the same semester, thus alleviating procedural concerns over granting initial and final approvals at the same meeting. M. Aakhus announced that M. Hupfer must review all proposals before final approval can be granted. The proposed minors in Legal Studies and Pre-Law as well as the major in Humanities all received initial approval to explore these programs. The proposed minor in Cognitive Science was granted initial and final approval. Council members raised issues regarding the approval process, specifically regarding the ability to track the status of proposals. S. Spencer expressed concern about the effect that the university's budget has on curriculum development and planning. T. Hunt raised concerns regarding the approval process for Distance Education courses, citing the absence of information regarding the DE course approval committee. MT Hallock Morris reported that some courses that have been approved still do not appear on the schedule. Council members agreed that a College of Liberal Arts DE committee might provide effective oversight.

**IV. Open Items for Chairs**

J. Evey requested clarification regarding affiliate status, specifically the process by which it is conferred upon a faculty member. J. Evey intends to submit a charge to the Faculty Senate requesting that specific and clear language be included within the faculty handbook.

K. Waters raised the issue of the tenure-track review timeline. M. Aakhus wants to meet with HR before Liberal Arts makes any recommendation. He also suggested that this may be an issue that should go before the council of chairs and program directors.

T. Hunt asked for an update on the MALS Program. T. Bordelon is drafting a proposal based on the LA Council's discussion. It will be discussed at the next LAC meeting.

MT Hallock Morris requested that proposed staff support for the MALS would also serve the MPA and the MAC programs.

**V. Announcements**

S. Williams will present the Cooper Lecture today at 3:00 pm in Kleymeyer Hall.

The Employee Retirement Reception is today at 3:00 pm in Carter Hall.

R. Priest reported that the major in Anthropology received its final approval and will begin in fall 2012.

S. Spencer announced that the newest edition of the *Southern Indiana Review* is now available.

*Rent* opens on November 11, 2011 in the Mallette Studio Theatre. Tickets are on sale now. Tickets for *Madrigals* go on sale today, November 1, 2011.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am.**